

ALL THINGS ARE YOURS by SAM FIFE

I CORINTHIANS 3, verse 21, Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours: 22, Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; 23 And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's

Here in I Corinthians 3:21, we have one of the most astounding statements in all the Bible. So astounding that, unless it is properly understood, it is almost impossible for one to believe. The Apostle Paul is speaking to the Christians in the Corinthian Church. And yet, since the Corinthian Church was only a part of God's whole church in every age, and since the words spoken to the Corinthians in the Corinthians Church was spoken to all Christians of every age, the spirit in Paul was speaking not only to them, but unto all of us, when he makes this astounding statement, "ALL THINGS ARE YOURS".

I wonder if my readers have ever stopped to meditate on the largeness of the scope of this statement of God, "ALL THINGS ARE YOURS". Now if I were to ask most of my readers if they believed this statement, because they are Christians and because they have respect for the Bible, they would probably immediately answer yes. But what they would probably mean is not that they really believed this astounding statement, that each one of them all things belong to him, but they would probably mean that they agreed with it as a true statement because it is in the Bible, which they respect as God's Word. But not that they fully understood the statement or that they fully understood how and why all things belong to them, and therefore, believed each within his own being that all things in this universe was actually his.

In order that you may see what I mean, let us stop for a moment and meditate on the broad range of the scope of the statement, when God says, "ALL THINGS ARE YOURS".

This takes in every tree, every ocean, every mountain, every sea, every man, every woman, all the houses, money, cars, children, land and goods that everyone around us has, the sun, the moon, all the planets, the stars. The statement reaches out into God's great universe where our scientists tell us that there are more than a billion suns, and each one has worlds revolving around it, like our world.

When God speaks through the Apostle Paul and makes this astounding statement to each one of us, "ALL THINGS ARE YOURS", God takes all the things in the whole creation, wraps them up in one package, one phrase, and says to each one of us, they are all yours.

The Apostle Paul, in writing to the Corinthians in order to try to get over to them the largeness of the scope of what he was saying, gives an impressive list as he says to them in vers,2 22, "Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world". Let me pause right here, and point out that when Paul says, or the world, in this one all encompassing phrase; he lumps mountains, seas, oceans, trees, corn, peas, cattle, sheep, oxen, people and everything around us that constitutes the world around us that we live in. The Spirit of God, in the Apostle Paul, amazingly says to each one of us, it is all yours. Then Paul goes on to say, or life. When we pause a moment and look into this two word phrase, we realize that it encompasses perfect health, perfect peace, perfect joy, perfect happiness, victory over sickness, suffering, sin, and death. All these are lumped up into this little two word phrase, "or life".

Then in the next item on the list, God goes on to say through Paul, "or death". Pause a moment with me dear reader, and meditate on this one. God is saying to us that death itself belongs to me and it belongs to you. This thing called death, our chief enemy, the last enemy, the word of God says, shall be defeated. The great ogre that we have so long feared and bowed down before, the Spirit of God, through the Apostle Paul, says to us that it is only one of our possessions, it is subject to us.

A few years ago, someone asked me the question; "Brother Fife, who do you think has power over death, God or the Devil?" At that time, because my revelation was limited, my answer to them was that the devil

has power over death. God in this dispensation has allowed the devil to use it as his instrument. Then I quoted them the scripture in the Book of Job, where the Bible says, God allowed the devil to kill Job's sons and daughters by causing a great tornado to hit the house they were in. And though God Himself, uses death as the instrument by which he releases His people to enter into the higher heavenly life; I told them that it was still the devil that had power to bring death upon people and to kill people. Therefore, it was the devil that had the power over death.

But now my revelations in the mysteries of God has increased. My understanding of who I am, in Christ, and in God's great plan, has given me a deeper understanding of the answer to this question. When someone asks me that question now, who has power over death, my answer is not, God or the devil, but I answer them, I have power over death. For the Word of God says clearly, in I Corinthians 3, that death belongs to me. But Paul in his impressive list of the things that belong to us, does not stop there, lest there be something in all the scope of God's universe that is missed, in this great revelation, that all things are ours.

He goes on to say, or things present, or things to come; all are yours. Here is the little phrase, or things to come, this astounding statement reaches out into all the endless ages of the future that are to come, and everything that shall be and everything that shall happen during those endless ages. The Spirit of God says to you and me, the sons of God, all are yours; and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Now, up until some months ago, I had read this statement many times in the Bible, I knew it was there, but it had not really registered with me, because I had no understanding of its meaning. Therefore, it was practically impossible for me to believe that all things belong to me. I live in a world where even the title deed to the little two bedroom one bath house that I live in, is not in my own hands, but in the hands of the mortgage company to whom I make monthly payments. Therefore, in the context of the world I live in, I can't even say my home is mine.

In my ministry, in which I travel across the country, I fly an airplane. But the title to the airplane is also in the hands of the finance company, to whom I make monthly payments. Therefore, I cannot say that it is mine. About the only thing that I have in my possession, to which the title is not in the hands of the mortgage company, or the finance company, are the clothes I wear on my back, and the shoes I wear on my feet. Therefore, in the context of the world I live in, the only things that belong to me are my clothes and shoes. Yet the Word of God says to me that all things are mine.

Considering these things, one can easily see why it was so hard for me to believe this statement, until I began to understand it a few months ago. I was sitting on a convention platform, behind Brother Buddy Benton, who was ministering under a heavy anointing, some of the deeper mysteries of God. Suddenly, the spirit of revelation began to cause lights to flash in my soul. I began to realize, that in the context of this Babylonish world system in which we live, in this age, the spirit of Babylon and Lucifer who rules over it, has separated God from us, and separated all of us from one another, has divided us up into nations and denominations and races and colours, and convinced us all that God is an individual, separate and distinct from us. That Jesus is an individual, separate and distinct from us. That we are all individuals, separate and distinct from one another. That everything that each one of us has in his hands, or his possession is his alone, that everything that God is, and everything that God has is His alone. And that He keeps Himself and it off in some far off heavenly city far from us.

In the Babylonish context and system that Lucifer has established and that we live in during this age, the spirit of Babylon has taken its Babylonish names and divided us up into many families; the Joneses, the Smiths, the Browns, and the Fifes. Every man sweats his life away to get himself a title deed to a little handful of God's goods here in this earth that he has in his possession. Then he says, I and these belong to me and me alone. Therefore, in the context of this Babylonish world system, that we live in today, the statement of the Spirit of God through the Apostle Paul here, could never be true.

But that night on the convention platform, I began to realize that the Apostle Paul was not speaking to citizens of this world system, or citizens of the kingdom of this age, or this earthly creation, but he was speaking to Christians who have been translated into the Kingdom of God, and born into a new creation. He was speaking to citizens of an age that is to come in this world, a few years from now. When Babylon will have fallen and God by His judgment day, during the great tribulation will have destroyed all the world systems of this present age off the face of the earth. Then we will live together as one body in a new age, where no man will count anything he has his own, but where all will belong to all. Therefore, every member of that new age will be able to say without qualification or fear of contradiction, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE".

The Apostle Paul could make this astounding statement to the Corinthian Christians, all things are yours, because he considered not the Babylonish context of the world system we live in. But he saw that which was actually true from God's standpoint. God is not an individual, separate from us; Jesus is not an individual, separate from us; we are not individuals, separate from one another. But Jesus the head, and all we the members of His body are all one many membered man, members one of another. Since, Jesus is in God and we are in Him, we all are members of God also, of His body. Therefore, all things that God is, and all things that God has in this world and in this universe do not belong to any one of us, as an individual, or anyone else as an individual, for we are not individuals, but all belongs to all. Therefore, every member of that body, when he is walking in the spirit and in the truth, and in that which is true in God and not in the false context of this world Babylonish system can say at any time, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE."

In the fourteenth chapter of John, it is written, that Jesus, just before He left, said to the disciples, when the Holy Spirit shall come, ye shall know that I am in the Father, and ye are in me and I am in you. He was revealing to them that when the Holy Spirit came they would come to know that we are not all a bunch of individuals. But that Jesus is in the Father, and we are in Him, and He is in us.

For that is the purpose that Jesus came and shed His blood, so that the Holy Spirit, the great teacher might come and dwell in us. It was in order that He might deliver us from the false idea the spirit of Babylon has instilled in our consciousness; that Jesus, God, and we, are a bunch of individuals separate from one another. Also, to make us to know that when God created us, He created us in Him and in one another, as one many membered whole.

The idea that we are individuals, or individual families, Browns, Smiths, and Jones, or individual nations or denominations, is a Babylonish lie that has been instilled in our consciousness by the false world system that the spirit of Babylon has set up. Therefore, Jesus revealed to his disciples the purpose for His coming and dying was so that the Holy Spirit could come and reveal to us the great truth that, He is in the Father, and we are in Him, and that He is in us, and that we are not a bunch of individuals. That in truth and reality and in God's eyes, His world and the goods in it and the universe, is not cut up into 150 foot lots, belonging to each one of us as individuals. But it all belongs to all of us and we belong to Jesus, and Jesus belongs to God, and God belongs to us, for we are all in one another. Therefore, anyone of us at anytime, when we are walking and living in truth, can say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE."

Jesus did not say to the disciples in John 14, just when the Holy Spirit comes it shall suddenly come true, that I am in the Father and ye are in me and I am in you. It was already true, it has been true since the foundation of the world.

For, God created us in one another. What Jesus said was when the Holy Spirit comes ye shall know that I am in the Father and ye are in me and I am in you. For that is what the Holy Spirit comes to teach us, to deliver us from the Babylonish concept, that we are a bunch of individuals, with our individual holdings and individual positions. The Holy Spirit teaches us the truth that we are all one many membered body, we who are in the new creation. The Body of Christ, who is the Body of God. And that all God is and all that He has belongs to that whole body, and to no one of us as an individual. So it is literally true that each one of us who is a member of that body can say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE."

In the Babylonish context in which we live, even God's people, Christians who have been born and brought up in this Babylonish system, and in this Babylonish church system, work and sweat and slave all their lives to get themselves a title deed to a little 75 by 150 foot lot, and a three bedroom 2 bath house, or 10 acres of land or 20 acres of land, or 200 acres of land or even 2,000 acres of land, and a few thousand dollars in the bank, and in their ignorance they say to themselves, "This is mine. I have a title deed to it, it is my possession. It belongs to me as an individual." It is their own little kingdom. They do not realize that they are giving themselves over to a Babylonish context, which separates them from all that God is, and all that God has. Their little paper sack full of possessions and two bit kingdom are peanuts compared to what will belong to those in the Body of Christ, who in bringing in a new age, will take all that they are and all that they have, and give up their individual claim to it, and give it in to the Body of Christ, and into the whole.

So that no man will count anything that he has his own, but all will belong to all, and all will be available for the use of all when it is needed. So, that any member of that body, at any time, can truthfully say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE."

Recognizing the idea that anything in this creation belongs to anyone of us as an individual, was a Babylonish lie. For no one of us created one tree, or one stone, or one speck of the land, the dirt that men cherish the title to so, but that our God created it all and that therefore, it all belongs to Him. And since Jesus is in Him, as He said, I am in the Father, it all belongs to Jesus. Since we are in Jesus, just as Jesus said, I am in the Father and you are in me and I am in you, therefore, all that God is and all that God has belongs to us, all as one body. No part of it belongs to anyone of us as an individual, but all of it belongs to all of us, as one body. Therefore, any one of us at any given time, could truthfully say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE."

It was this beautiful truth that Paul was trying to get over to the Corinthians, when he said all are yours; ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's. The apostrophe s ('s) on the end of yours, Christ's, and God's, in this statement reveals that in the glorious context of the Body of Christ, each one of us who are members of that Body, do not even belong to our selves. But, we and all that we are, belong to the other members. Since this is true to all the other members, they do not belong to themselves, in that body, but they belong to each one of us. In giving up the little bit we have and the little bit we are, as an individual, we gain all that all the other members of the body are, and all that they have.

Therefore, we are fools to go on in the Babylonish context, trying to hang on to our own individual life, trying to hang on to our little 75 by 100 foot lot, and three bedroom two bath house. For, if we try to hang on to it, in the Babylonish context, that is all we will ever have. But, by turning it in to the whole and counting ourselves and it as no longer our own, but belonging to the whole Body of Christ, because all the other members of the Body of Christ, will be doing the same, in giving up the little individual bit that we have, we will gain all that God is, and all that God has, and all that every other member of the Body of Christ is, and all that he has, to be made available for us any time that we have the need. So we will be able to say gloriously, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE".

So in Paul's beautiful statement, all things are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's, we discover that in this beautiful context of Christ's body, as soon as we discover that everything belongs to us, by being told all things are yours, we suddenly have to give it all up, not take it unto ourselves individually, yea, lose it all, so to speak. For the next statement says, and ye are Christ's. That apostrophe ('s) on the end of Christ denotes that we, therefore, and all that we are, and all that we have are His full possession. So, we see that as soon as we get everything, we must give it up. We must say to ourselves, even my own life is not my own, but it is the full possession of Christ. And of course, when the Bible says, we are Christ's, in the full possession of Christ, it means the full possession of Christ in His body. Therefore, no one of us belongs to ourselves but we belong to the Body of Christ.

Though the Bible tells us All Things Are Yours, we discover by the spirit of revelation that all that is ours from God, our revelation, our anointing, our goods, our time, our gifts, our money, all is not given to

us for ourselves. Not even our own being is for us, but it is given to us for the benefit of all the rest of the Body of Christ. This agrees with the words of the Apostle Paul, when he said, the manifestations of the Spirit are given to every man to profit withal. Nothing that is given to us by God, not even our very life itself, was given to us for ourselves, but for the profit of all the rest of the Body of Christ.

Thus, in a context where every member of the Body of Christ, of his own free will, knows that all that God has placed in his hands is not for him, but for the body. Since all the rest of the members of the body have the revelation of giving up the little that is placed in his hands, for the benefit and blessing of the body, he gains the all that is placed in the hands of the rest of the members of the Body of Christ. So that he can truly say, all things are mine.

Therefore, in this beautiful plan of God, as soon as we discover that all things are ours, we immediately discover that we are Christ's. So we have to give them all up. Then in the great progression of God that is revealed here, Christ, as soon as He gets everything, discovers that it is not His. For the Bible goes on to say, and Christ is God's. And so, as soon as Christ gets everything, He discovers that it is not His, for Himself. But we and all that we are, which is His, and He, Himself, is God's. But the Apostle Paul did not do so, because the people were not matured enough to be able to see it, if he had carried this progression on to its end, he would have gone on to say, and God is yours.

I assure you, God would not call us to participate in a cycle which He, Himself, refused to participate in. For God Himself was the instigator of this great plan. For He Himself first came in Jesus, and gave to us all that He was, all that He has, His very life, to redeem us and bring us into the great plan. Then He makes all that He is and all that He has available to us. So that we will not take it unto ourselves, but will give that portion which we have unto the Body of Christ, that it might belong to Christ; that Christ might be God's and that God and all that He is, and all that He has might be ours. In giving up all that He had to us, His very life and His fullness to be poured into us, God gained the one thing in this universe that He did not have, us. For you see, though He owned everything in this universe, when He came in Jesus, there was one thing that was yet not His possession, not His, outside of Him, and that was us. We were separated from Him, not surrendered to Him, not willingly giving ourselves to Him. Therefore, we were the one thing that He desired above all the other things that He could not say were His. Therefore, He conceived this great plan of one body, which every member in it, including Himself, gave up his individual claim to what he had, so that all would belong to all. So that every member in it could therefore say that all the other members and all that they were and all that they had did not belong to themselves, but all belongs to all. Therefore, God in putting all that He had into this great context, gained the one thing that He did not have, us. So, that He too, could truly say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE".

What a tragedy it is that our world is full of people and Christians, who are straining and striving their very life away trying to gather together for themselves, a little portion of this world's goods, money, houses, lands or what have you. So that in the Babylonish context, they can take their title deed to it and say this is mine. They do not realize, that no matter how much they gathered or gained a title deed to, it is but a pittance and a paupers portion to what could be theirs, and what will belong to each one who turns from this Babylonish context, and puts all that he is and all that he had into the beautiful, mysterious context of the Body of Christ. Where in a new age, all will belong to all. God will have purged the earth of all who cling to the Babylonish context. So that all who are here, each one can say "ALL THINGS ARE MINE".

The Corinthians themselves, to whom Paul was writing, were such spiritual babes, and so limited in their understanding of the real purpose for Christ's coming and of God's plan, that they have foolishly imagined that God would pour all that He is and all that He has, and all of His power, and all of His truth into one individual. Therefore, they had divided themselves into groups. One of them had imagined that Apollos had it all. They said, we are going to be followers of Apollos, we want what Apollos has. Another imagined that Cephas had it all. They said, we will follow Cephas, we want what Cephas has. Another imagined that Paul had it all. They said, we will follow Paul, we want what Paul has. Paul, who saw the beauty of the whole master plan of God, said to them, why do you glory in men, as if a man has it

all. What he was really saying is that it is foolish to glory in men, because God will never pour His fullness and His all into one individual. But, only when there has come forth a corporate body, where in every member in it no longer takes that which God gives him unto himself. But willingly gives it into the whole, so that all belongs to all. Into that corporate body will God pour His fullness. and every member in that body will be able to say, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE".

Therefore, the Apostle Paul sought to get this over to the Corinthians saying, don't you know that Paul or Cephas or Apollos doesn't have anymore than anyone of you. For, all things are yours, and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's. Since in the context of that body, that which every member has is not his own, or for his own benefit or profit, but for the benefit and profit of the other members of the body. What Paul was really saying to them was, why in the world should you want what Paul's got, when you have Paul for ever. All that Paul is and all that he has will be available to you forever when you need it. Why in the world should you want what Apollos has, when you forever have Apollos. Why in the world should you want what Cephas has, when you forever have Cephas .

So often in our world today, Christians will see an anointed ministry who has much revelation and much anointing, and much faith, and much power with God, and they, deep in their heart will desire what that ministry has. God's word to them is, why in the world should you desire to have what brother so and so has when you forever have brother so and so, and all that he is and all that he has available for your use when you need it, if you, yourself, walk in the pure revelation of God's body.

Therefore it is time to cease glorying in men. It is time for us to start glorying in the whole body of Christ. It is time for us to glorying in the beautiful perfect plan of God, in which every member in that body, in giving up that little bit that he has in his hands, and in his possession, willingly into the whole, comes into a context where all belongs to all. And all that all the other members of that body are and have are not for their benefit, but for his. So that he can truly say from the depths of his heart, "ALL THINGS ARE MINE", and I am Christ's, and Christ is God's; and God is mine.

Then shall we all come to experience what Jesus said, the other Comforter ' the Holy Spirit, is come to teach us, when He said, when he comes you shall know that I am in the Father and you are in me and I am in you. Hallelujah! The Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth.